

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BROWN COUNTY**  
**LAND CONSERVATION SUBCOMMITTEE**

Pursuant to Section 18.94 Wis. Stats., a regular meeting of the **Brown County Land Conservation Subcommittee** was held on Monday, April 26, 2010 at UW-Extension -1150 Bellevue Street, Green Bay, Wisconsin

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**Present:** Norb Dantine, Bernie Erickson, Dan Haefs, Dave Kaster, Mike Fleck, Norb VandeHei  
**Also Present:** Bill Hafs, Tom Hinz, Jayme Sellen, John Luetscher, Supervisors Scray & Clancy  
Other Interested Parties.

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I. Call Meeting to Order.

The meeting was called to order by Senior Member Supervisor Haefs at 6:00 p.m.

II. Approve/Modify Agenda.

A motion was made by Supervisor Fleck and seconded by Supervisor Dantine to approve.

III. Election of Chair.

A motion was made by Supervisor Erickson to nominate Supervisor Dantine as Chair of the Land Conservation Subcommittee. Supervisor Dantine elected by unanimous ballot.

IV. Election of Vice Chair.

A motion was made by Supervisor Haefs to nominate Supervisor Erickson as Vice-Chair of the Land Conservation Subcommittee.

A motion was made by Supervisor Fleck to nominate Supervisor Kaster as Vice-Chair of Land Conservation Subcommittee.

Supervisor Haefs withdrew his nomination for Supervisor Erickson.

Supervisor Kaster elected as Vice-Chair by unanimous ballot.

V. Approve/Modify Minutes of Land Conservation Subcommittee of March 22, 2010.

A motion was made by Supervisor Erickson and seconded by Supervisor Fleck to approve.

**Communications**

1. Communication from Supervisor Scray re: With fears of revenue from State and Federal sources being cut, I am asking each Department Head to decide ahead of time where they could cut another 10%, if needed, while doing their budget process. This may include mandated services that department heads feel are not beneficial to County and the penalties are not severe. Held for one month.

Supervisor Scray stated that she had plans to meet with the County Executive and noted that she hopes this all can be done through the budget. Last year when the State and

Federal revenues needed to be cut the final cut came from Human Services. Scray suggested encouraging Department Heads to be somewhat in charge of their budget in figuring out where they could cut 10% of their budget, such as a program that they don't feel is beneficial to the County or to their department. She stated it doesn't mean that the Board can't, at the last minute on the County Board floor, cut departments. Another part is to look at mandated services and try and figure out to what extent do we need to abide by these mandated services. Is it worth the penalty and or to what extent does it have to be done to save the County some money. The State keeps handing mandated services down but also cuts funding. Scray questioned what we are here for. She stated she plans to continue to work on this issue and would like to work with the Department Heads after meeting with the Executive. The forecast for this year is the lowest federal income revenue recorded in many years and the County has to start looking at what it can function with and without.

Haefs stated that with regards to his communication last year his goal was that whatever the County does that they are productive. The problem is 10% would be \$30 million and it would virtually be taking a meat cleaver to a lot of programs and he stated that was not his approach. His idea was, from reality sake, if you can achieve a goal of a zero tax levy increase just to predict what you may or may not have to do, you may have to deal with several million dollars in shared revenue reduction. You may have to deal with some income that you are not going to realize because of the time value of money now, the interest rates on money. The county used to get a lot of money from collecting money in December from taxes and it was placed in a money market fund. Interest income is down. His idea was more or less to take a look at the ability of the taxpayer to pay and look for a net levy increase of zero dollars composite. He felt it was the levy dollars that really matter but it is also the ability of the people to pay. Haefs stated that he said ten years ago, the budget is workable in salary and benefits. He believed the entire county budget is 80-85% of levy and everything is salary and benefits. You can't cut out enough dump trucks or plows and come up with these kinds of dollars. He felt the big thing for everyone to realize is that with the coming budget he will not raise someone's taxes and went on to further discuss the unemployment rates in Brown County. Haefs stated that he was looking to get over the rough spot of the next year or two and he thinks it can be done. He mentioned that last year they could have had a zero levy increase with something as simple as one peck at the general fund for \$350,000. His biggest complaint is that somehow it had to be conveyed to the staff that the County Board is serious about it and will work with them but they need to set a goal ahead of time and stated that he felt the current budgetary process was wrong.

Scray added that the funding that the County is getting back in Federal and State income taxes for different services is going to be cut. The County will have to levy the difference of what the Federal and State Government is giving and what the county is having to pay to keep the services going. There is going to be less revenue from those taxes and that's what she stated she is getting to. Haefs stated he was glad to hear that that was Scray's goal.

**A motion was made by Supervisor Haefs and seconded by Supervisor Erickson to receive and place on file. Vote take. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

2. Review and Approve: Resolution Supporting the Attorney General and Governor of Wisconsin to Pursue Remedies to Stop Asian Carp Species from entering Lake Michigan and Protect Wisconsin Interests (5 minute video on Asian Carp).

Bill Hafs referred to resolution in the packet and a handout (attached) re: Wisconsin: Socioeconomic Case for Clean Water and stated the video relates to these items.

**A motion was made by Supervisor Haefs and seconded by Supervisor Erickson to approve the resolution. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

After further discussion, Supervisor Erickson amended the last paragraph of the resolution to state "BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Brown County Board of Supervisors that the County Clerk shall forward a copy of this resolution to the Governor of the State of Wisconsin, the Attorney General of the State of Wisconsin, Brown County's Legislative Representatives, **Federal Representatives**, to the Wisconsin Counties Association, **National Association of Counties (NACo)**, and to all other Wisconsin Coastal Counties urging adoption of a similar resolution.

**A motion was made by Supervisor Haefs and seconded by Supervisor Erickson to approve resolution as amended. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

3. Review and Approve Proposed Changes to Brown County Animal Waste Management Ordinance related to permits requesting storage of animal waste and other wastes (industrial, municipal, septic) in Brown County Animal Waste Management Ordinance Permitted Facilities.

Haefs stated for the first time in the history of the Animal Waste Management Ordinance, which was put on the books in 1985, the Land Conservation department had had a company or land owner come to them that wanted to build an animal waste storage facility that also stored industrial waste. Corporation Counsel added language to the resolution defining other waste which is anything with industrial waste, domestic waste, and septic waste as defined by those in the code. Haefs stated that he had sat down with the DNR to ask what they were going to do and what they wanted Brown County to do. It was mutually agreed by the DNR and the Land Conservation Department that it should be a joint permit for that facility. The DNR will permit the facility for industrial waste, Land Conservation will permit it for animal waste, and therefore there is no loophole either way on this ordinance. If the language was not included it would be Haefs fear that land owners who couldn't store animal waste in there, it would just be regulated by the DNR and the spreading would not be regulated. Likewise, if they just permit it for animal waste, they don't look at industrial waste issues. What this ordinance does is cover the Land Conservation's aspect of the permit and the DNR is going to have to cover their aspect of the permit which is industrial waste, septic waste or municipal waste.

**A motion was made by Supervisor Erickson and seconded by Norb Vande Hei to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

4. Land and Water Conservation Department Monthly Budget Update (copy to be provided at meeting).

**A motion was made by Supervisor Haefs and seconded by Supervisor Fleck to receive and place on file. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

5. Budget Adjustment Request (#10-34): Increase in expenses with offsetting increase in revenue (see attached).

Haefs stated this was unused dollars from 2009 that they are asking to be transferred to 2010. It was designated for this project and wouldn't be able to use the funds for anything else.

**A motion was made by Supervisor Haefs and seconded by Supervisor Erickson to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

6. Director's Report.

An editorial by Tom Sigmund was provided re: Cities can't clean water on their own. Hafs stated that he had gone to the phosphorus hearing and explained that what the State of Wisconsin is doing is going to create a phosphorus standard which would cost the Green Bay Metropolitan Sewerage District \$223 million dollars. What is stated in this article is that they can't do it alone (see attached). Hafs emphasized that he agreed with the article and felt that the money is going in the wrong place.

Hafs stated the City of Green Bay, City of DePere, Sheboygan, Fond du Lac, and surrounding areas were at the public hearing.

**A motion was made by Supervisor Kaster and seconded by Supervisor Fleck to receive and place on file. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

7. Such Other Matters as Authorized by Law.

The committee set the meeting date of this committee as the fourth Monday of the month at 7 p.m. from May through October and at 6 p.m. November through April.

**Motion made by Supervisor Erickson and seconded by Supervisor Fleck to adjourn at 6:35 p.m. MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**

Respectfully submitted,

Recording Secretary  
Alicia A. Loehlein

### Overview:

If Wisconsin's waters are given the protection they deserve, the state can expect to see a myriad of socioeconomic benefits ranging from a boost in the state's outdoor recreation economy to improved quality of life conditions for Wisconsin's communities. Strong rules to protect Wisconsin's lakes, rivers and streams will also promote and protect the ecological, scientific and historic value of the state's most precious natural resources.

### Economic Benefits:

Providing Wisconsin's lakes, rivers and streams with strong rules to protect water quality is important to the state's outdoor recreation economy. Without strong rules to protect and promote clean water, *Wisconsin risks losing current and future sources of recreational revenue:*

*Wisconsin values outdoor recreation:*

- In 2006, 2.9 million people fished, hunted or engaged in wildlife watching activities in Wisconsin.<sup>1</sup> (state residents and non-residents)
- Of this total, 1.4 million people fished in Wisconsin in 2006, amassing a total of 20.8 million fishing days.<sup>2</sup> (state residents and non-residents)
- According to statistics reported in an American Association of Sportfishing report, Wisconsin ranks 5<sup>th</sup> in the nation for total number of anglers (tied for 5<sup>th</sup> with Michigan in 2006).<sup>3</sup>
- Wisconsin also ranks 2<sup>nd</sup> in the nation for its boat-to resident ratio, with one boat for every nine residents.<sup>4</sup>
- Over the past 40 years the number of registered boaters in Wisconsin has doubled from only 303,000 in 1969<sup>5</sup> to 627,000 registered boaters in 2009.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> 2006 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation. U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. Available at <http://www.census.gov/prod/2008pubs/fhw06-wi.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> Id.

<sup>3</sup> American Sportfishing Association, Sportfishing in America: An Economic Engine and Conservation Powerhouse (Revised January 2008). Available at <http://www.wildlifedepartment.com/responsive/ASA%20Fishing%20Economics%202007.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> *Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, 2005–2010*, page 2-4. Available at [http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/planning/scorp/plan/WIS\\_2005-10\\_SCORP\\_COMPLETE.pdf](http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/planning/scorp/plan/WIS_2005-10_SCORP_COMPLETE.pdf)

<sup>5</sup> *Wisconsin Recreation Facts*, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Last Revised August 16 2008.

Available at <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/division/yow/recreation.htm> (Note: The 1969 number is from the above mentioned WDNR website and the 2009 number was found in the 2009 Wisconsin Boater Report).

<sup>6</sup> 2009 Wisconsin Boating Report, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, page 10. Available at [http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/es/enforcement/docs%5CBoat\\_Annual\\_Report.pdf](http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/es/enforcement/docs%5CBoat_Annual_Report.pdf)

- The 2005-2010 *Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan* found that “recreation participation rates within Wisconsin are higher than most other regions of the country.”<sup>7</sup>

*Outdoor recreation participation and its economic rewards:*

- Economic benefits from recreational spending include support for jobs, salaries, wages and business earnings, along with increased revenue for state and local taxes.
- The American Association of Sportfishing found that in 2006, sportfishing in Wisconsin helped support 30,164 jobs, \$780,068,275 in salaries, wages and business earnings and \$195,979,615 in state and local tax revenues.<sup>8</sup>
- All fishing-related expenditures in Wisconsin totaled **\$1.6 billion** in 2006<sup>9</sup> and the total multiplier or ripple effect of sportfishing in Wisconsin in 2006 was around **\$2.7 billion**.<sup>10</sup>
- On average, Wisconsin anglers spent \$26 per day in 2006 and an average of \$1,053 in expenditures for the entire year.<sup>11</sup> (Wisconsin residents only)

- The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources reports that “without state and local revenues yielded from travel expenditures, each household would have to pay an additional \$932 in taxes to maintain existing services.”<sup>12</sup> (note: this number is for all travel expenditures, not just travel expenditures from fishing)

*Regional benefits of outdoor recreation participation:*

- In 2008, the Wisconsin Governor’s Office reported that “more than 35 million Americans live, work, and recreate in, on or by the waters of the Great Lakes.”<sup>13</sup>
- The Great Lakes generate \$55 billion in tourism revenue for the region and nearly \$377 million in personal income from wages and salaries.<sup>14</sup>

<sup>7</sup> Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, 2005–2010, page 2-2.

<sup>8</sup> American Sportfishing Association, *Sportfishing in America: An Economic Engine and Conservation Powerhouse* (Revised January 2008).

<sup>9</sup> 2006 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation. U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

<sup>10</sup> American Sportfishing Association, *Sportfishing in America: An Economic Engine and Conservation Powerhouse* (Revised January 2008).

<sup>11</sup> 2006 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation. U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

<sup>12</sup> *Water Economics*, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Last Updated March 12, 2008. Available at <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/division/yow/economics.htm>

<sup>13</sup> Governor Doyle Column: *Great Lakes Compact Will Protect Important Natural Resource*. May 27, 2008. Available at [http://www.wisgov.state.wi.us/journal\\_media\\_detail.asp?locid=19&prid=3397](http://www.wisgov.state.wi.us/journal_media_detail.asp?locid=19&prid=3397)

<sup>14</sup> Id.

- Recreational angling provides the Driftless Area (which includes parts of southwest Wisconsin) with “\$1.1 billion annual economic benefit to the local economy.”<sup>15</sup>
- The regional economy (of the Driftless Area) receives \$24.50 each year for every dollar that is spent on stream restoration.<sup>16</sup>

**Quality of Life Benefits:**

Higher water quality standards for Wisconsin’s lakes, rivers and streams will provide residents with important quality of life benefits:

- Higher water quality standards will help ensure that swimmers, boaters and fishers are provided with clean and safe conditions while enjoying Wisconsin’s natural resources.
- Increased access to higher quality waters can also provide residents with more recreational opportunities, support a healthier living environment, improve the aesthetics of Wisconsin’s communities and promote environmental stewardship and awareness.
- Higher water quality standards are important for the long-term health of Wisconsin’s waters and the health of the plants and animals that live there. Enhanced habitat protection will also help ensure that future generations continue to enjoy Wisconsin’s outstanding natural resources.

**Brown County**  
**Land Conservation**  
**Budget Status Report (unaudited)**  
3/31/2010

	Annual Budget Amended	YTD Transactions
Salaries	\$ 481,883	\$ 103,485
Fringe Benefits	\$ 240,825	\$ 50,443
Operations & Maintenance	\$ 45,437	\$ 11,819
UTL Utilities	\$ 11,384	\$ 2,675
CHG Chargebacks	\$ 122,582	\$ 28,372
CON Contracted services	\$ -	\$ -
OTH Other	\$ 137,335	\$ -
OUT- Outlay	\$ 13,286	\$ 13,369
TRO - Transfer out	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 1,052,732</b>	<b>\$ 210,163</b>
Property Tax Revenue	\$ 539,368	\$ 134,842
Intergov't Revenue	\$ 344,816	\$ 43,561
L&P licenses & permits	\$ 47,000	\$ 5,700
CSS - Charges for sales services	\$ 98,000	\$ 29,349
Misc Rev.	\$ -	\$ -
CTB Contributions	\$ 2,000	\$ -
TRI Transfer in	\$ 21,548	\$ -
<b>Grand Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 1,052,732</b>	<b>\$ 213,451</b>

Indirect cost, I.S., Insurance

Grant exp., landowner payments WD, WS, L&W

Levy

State grants , Federal grants

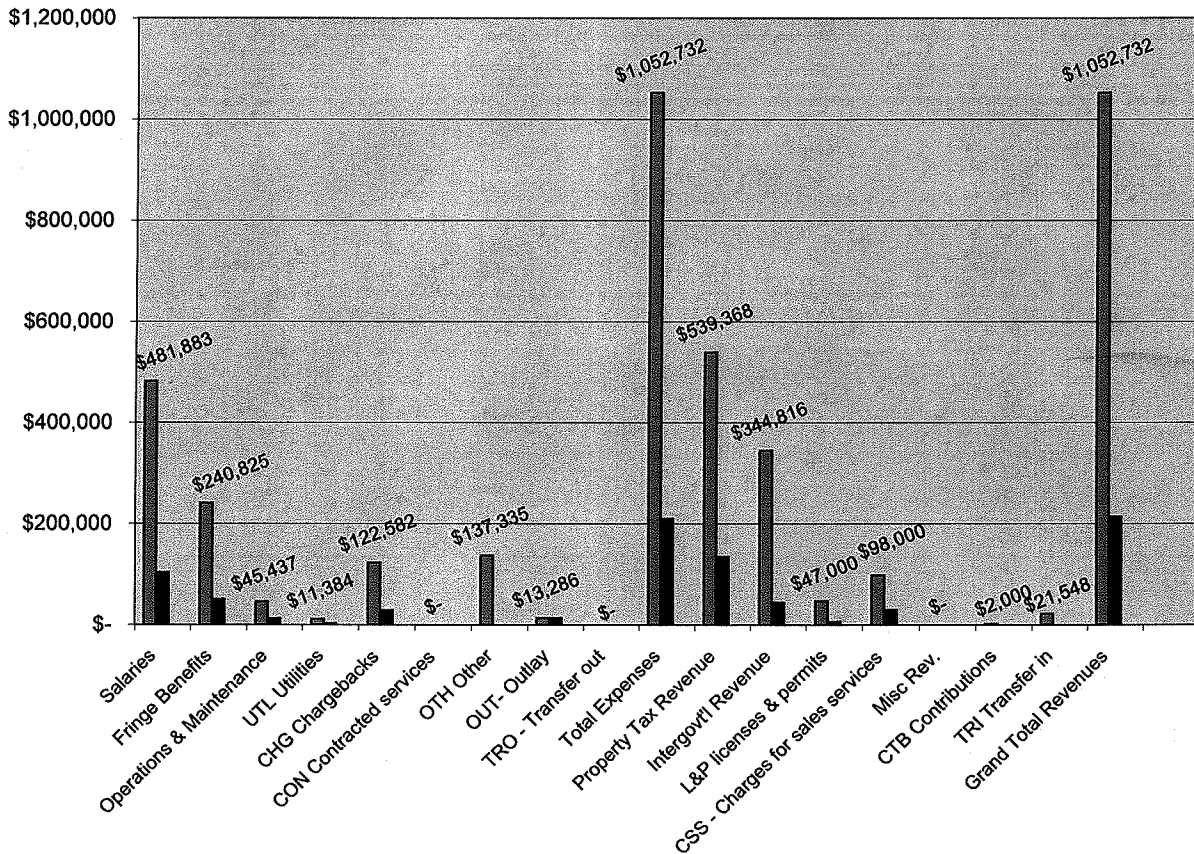
Permits, inspections

Ag 50 cent fee, Tree sales

WLWCA

**Land Conservation - March 31,2010**

■ Annual Budget Amended  
■ YTD Transactions



**TOM  
SIGMUND**  
Guest  
commentary



## Cities can't clean water on their own

**C**lean water in Wisconsin is vital to our economy, sport and commercial fishing industry, recreation, ports, ecosystems and citizens. The state Department of Natural Resources is considering new rules that are aimed at reducing the amount of phosphorus in lakes, rivers and streams. Too much phosphorus can cause harmful algae blooms, degrade fish and plant life, and affect swimming and fishing.

How the state achieves clean water is important. A broad and integrated approach is needed to achieve real improvements.

Traditionally, environmental regulations have focused on point sources, including municipal treatment plants, industries and commercial sources. Because point sources are monitored, sampled and permitted, we know statewide that they contribute about 20 percent of the phosphorus that reaches waterways.

The majority of phosphorus comes from nonpoint sources, such as agricultural fields, construction sites and urban areas.

### Earth Day online

Check out the Green Bay Press-Gazette's P-G Green page at [www.greenbaypressgazette.com/PGgreen](http://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/PGgreen) for stories and columns on the environment and a link to special Earth Day coverage.

The rules being proposed could cause municipalities to make significant expenditures to reduce only a small portion of phosphorus. Statewide, the costs for building filtration systems for wastewater treatment plants range from \$1.3 billion to \$4.3 billion. For the Green Bay Metropolitan Sewerage District, it will cost \$223 million to address less than 3 percent of the phosphorus delivered to Lower Green Bay. Without regulating nonpoint sources of phosphorous, rates could significantly increase with little or no discernable improvement in either the Fox River or Lower Green Bay.

A better way is a cost-effective and integrated approach that addresses all sources of phosphorus. Under a separate rulemaking effort, the state is proposing to regulate agricultural sources. Adopting the rule to regulate agriculture, in tandem with the proposed rules for point sources, will be necessary for us to enjoy clean water. Innovative approaches like issuing watershed-based permits and developing a phosphorus trading program would allow reductions in phosphorus to occur cost effectively.

The Green Bay Metropolitan Sewerage District has served residents by providing an environmental public service: wastewater treatment. We are willing to do our part for clean water, but we cannot do it alone.

Tom Sigmund is executive director of the Green Bay Metropolitan Sewerage District. Web site: [www.gbmsd.org](http://www.gbmsd.org).